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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/7711,240	11/13/00	CONNELL	M ALT-5604D CO

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IM22/0323

EXAMINER  
DRUDGE, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1723	4

DATE MAILED: 03/23/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

**Office Action Summary**Application No.  
**09/711,240**

Applicant(s)

**CONNELL ET AL**

Examiner

**Joseph Drodge**

Group Art Unit

**1723** Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 13, 2000. This action is **FINAL**. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

**Disposition of Claims** Claim(s) 30-41 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

 Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed. Claim(s) 30-41 is/are rejected. Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to. Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.**Application Papers** See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948. The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner. The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved. The specification is objected to by the Examiner. The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119** Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

 Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).**Attachment(s)** Notice of References Cited, PTO-892 Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2 Interview Summary, PTO-413 Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152**--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---**

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was

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made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims ~~20, 21, and 22~~<sup>30-41</sup> are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichtenstein patent 4,370,983 in view of Rubalcaba patent 4,898,578 and/or Kerns et al patent 4,756,706.

Lichtenstein discloses a computer controlled medical care system that encompasses extracorporeal blood circulation and treatment systems including means for conducting dialysis treatment of the blood in which numerous parameters are monitored, displayed and controlled through the use of central processing units coupled to interactive monitoring, input, and appropriate or standard interactive and display units ( see especially column 28, lines 60-65 and column 32, lines 26-67. Also disclosed with the medical care system are modules for conducting intravenous and drug infusion for patients ( see column 31, lines 12-33).

The claims each differ in requiring the interactive input/outputs to comprise touch screens. However, each of Kerns et al and Rubalcaba teach such interactive units employed with blood infusion pumping systems, operable to allow touch screen entry of keypads effective to change at least one step of a medical procedure (see especially column 8, lines 35-45 of Rubalcaba and column 1, lines 41-59 of Kerns et al. At the time the present invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to have modified the system of Lichtenstein by substituting or supplementing the alphanumeric units with such touch screen units, as taught by Rubalcaba and/ or Kerns et al, in order to ease user confusion and error in entering data and

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prevent extra errors from occurring during crisis situations, as suggested by Rubalcaba and/or prevent confusion in entering data due to detachment and reattachment of components to the central processor, as suggested by Kerns et al.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

4. Claim 36 is allowed.

Claim 36 would be deemed to distinguish in view of recitation of the touch screen being operable to display a profile represented as a plot of coordinates. The teaching references only suggest the touch screen interactive systems as operable to display parameter values and procedural step functions as single units.

*Conclusion*

4. This is a continuation of applicant's earlier Application No. 09/067,922. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5.

*X* Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph W. Drodge whose telephone number is (703) 308-0403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from approximately 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3599. When filing a FAX in Tech Center 1700, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communication with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

*Joseph W. Drodge*  
Joseph W. Drodge  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1723

JWD  
March 22, 2001